



The Missing Partners Game

Worthington Hooker School, Connecticut

Topic: National Math Panel: Critical Foundations for Algebra

Practice: Mathematics Preparation for Algebra

The attached documentation sheets show the results of a mathematics instructional game played by kindergarten students to practice an aspect of number sense, composition of whole numbers. Pairs of students work together on the game, each completing a documentation sheet.

The first student selects one card from a stack that includes whole numbers between zero and ten, and writes that number on top of the "mountain peak." The object is to imagine that number of "tumblers" falling down the left and right sides of the mountain. The first player writes a number to represent the portion of "tumblers" who fall down the mountain on the left side. The second player must determine the "missing partner," or the remaining number of tumblers who fall down the right side of the mountain. Students use counters if necessary to work out their answers and also represent the tumbler combinations through drawing. Students write the equation at the bottom of the mountain to show the number combination.

Example: Three tumblers are at the top of the mountain. If one falls down the left side, then two fall down the right side: 1 + 2 = 3.

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The Missing Partner Game!

One person take a number card and flip it over. Write that number at the top of the math mountain. The same player writes one partner on the side of the math mountain. The other person has to figure out the missing partner. Use counters if

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